

OBSERVATIONS

Miss Alice Day, age 16, is a student at the University of Nebraska.

St. Joseph was 11½ years old Tuesday. The legal birthday is July 26. The town plat was filed in 1843.

Annual election of officers at meeting of Buchanan County Farm Bureau at Commerce Club rooms Saturday afternoon.

The John A. Ross estate was valued in Buchanan county probate court at \$5,325. The voluntary inheritance tax of \$1,666.11 must be paid the county.

The attempted robbery of A. K. Godfrey, St. Joseph saloon keeper, by 3 masked men, one of whom fatally shot him, has caused much sympathy for the unfortunate man. He deserves a kinder fate.

The retiring probate judge will have to pay back \$16,000 he received in fees. A statute fixes the salary at \$8,000, but he collected from holding them, subject to supreme court decision in his right to them.

It is probable that the South Missouri Commercial club will be reorganized, the basis of organization being left. A banquet is called off to take place at the Crystal Room for the purpose of forming a club.

N. W. Banks, of Detroit, a showman checker player, played in St. Joseph Monday night, winning at last. He then played 8 games while unopposed and won all of them. And just what of it? Suppose he should win every game he plays, what's in it?

A counterfeiter worth \$100,000

is the cell of Wm. Braden, a convict in the Missouri state penitentiary. It had been used to make crude half dollars. Counterfeit money has been traced to convicts several times. One prisoner was discovered to have a still in which he made liquor.

Arthur Copper has this advantage over some former governors: If he can't appoint them all to office he can give them jobs as solicitors on one of his several hundred publications.

Two women were discussing a third whom they both admired, unreservedly, strange as the condition may appear. "Well," said one woman, "if I get up to the pearl estate and am in line before Mrs. Blank, I shall step back and say to her, 'After you my dear Alphonse!'"

There is an old song that William George and Nicholas might sing at their entertainments in Berlin, London or Petrograd, do you remember it? Some time ago like this, Oh, if I were king of France, or what better, Pops of Home, I'd let those who make the battle fight, the others stay at home."

A fire in West End, early this morning, was one of that town the opportunity they wanted on May 28. The house was later burned. Three barrels of whisky were rolled out in pieces. The woman got at the whisky barrels with a brace and bit and when they had done their work the whisky was trickling down the gutter.

A combination wedding gift consisting of a broom which was enclosed a check for \$1,000 was presented to Miss Lydia Dags, of Buchanan after her parents who she was married to during training. The marriage was conducted very quietly, the minister Rev. W. J. Hays even driving out to the home of the bride with his wife right out so that no one could see him.

More than a year ago the handle of a pitchfork was accidentally driven into the back of Frank "Charlie" of Jansenville, Wis. He was given medical attention, but the wound showed slight disposition to heal and caused him much pain continually. He recently went to a hospital where the wound was opened and surgically removed from it a piece of cloth from his jacket driven into his body by the handle of the fork—Pitchfork!

For some time a Jersey cow belonging to James Wilson, of Greenbaum, Pa., had been disappearing every morning and coming home at night without her usual supply of milk. The owner one day followed the cow and was surprised to see a few emerge from the underbrush and start to move at the owner's side. The cow displayed considerable fondness for her charge which in turn showed no little affection for its泉泉 mother.

For several days a quantity of sheet metal had been disappearing from the rear back of a factory at LaCrosse, Wis. The watchman exercised unusual care, but was unable to get any clue to the thief. At length the owner of the factory saw a goat plainly making a meal off one end of the pile of sheet metal. The owner of the goat has since kept it locked up and the formula on the sheet metal has ceased.

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CROKER MARRIAGE
JUST AN OLD TALE

Vance Thompson is so good a writer that what he writes for newspaper is always honored with a "by-line"; that is, since his articles in the "Daily News" are signed "Vance Thompson". Lately he wrote this for the Philadelphia Evening Ledger:

"Of all the love of the Frenchmen for the fair, the kindly old elder was an aching heart who had never got itself tied to anyone, and, without, or true to this, can be told true to the psychology of race and wild maidenhood."

"And Croker? That white and savage old man who has hunted peril and adventure and prey for more than half a century?"

"Whence was there he could live? He had taken everything the world had worth taking. He had known all the great passions—power and territory; he had even established a family and won the Derby. Then came this red-headed girl, and in her black eyes was a primitive and mortal attraction for the White Chief."

"For the aged crook—that stirred a new emotion in him. After all a man like Croker is as primitive as this daughter of the Negrito chief. He was never far removed from savagery and softness. He was primitive. And when she smiled at him showing strong white teeth between her red young lips the sexes in him shuddered again and he said, 'Hail, you are my woman!'

"It was so simple as that, and it was as magnificent a love story as any in the world."

Which possibly passes for fine writing, and comes up to the Vance Thompson standard. But shouldn't Thompson and the Philadelphia Evening Ledger blush for it? There may be some who do not know it is Thompson, but the intelligence of the pass is not so low that many of them will be found among the readers of one newspaper. When a rich old scoundrel of 78 weeks a woman 10 years his junior, it isn't a beautiful romance by any stretch of the imagination, the world understands well what it is from both sides of the transaction, and it isn't any occasion for pointing with pride by either party to the transaction. Which Vance Thompson understands, and the woman understands, and even the experts might if his conceit hasn't grown with the years of his debauch. Who also should this writing serve as an excuse for printing anything so utterly absurd as this romance of a Tammany chief and an Indian princess. Even such terms should be explained. The Tammany chief is no native nobleman, but a broken-down politician and the Indian princess is mostly white and highly civilized, her father didn't sell her, as might have been the custom in the early days of her tribe, still, it is likely she brought a bigger price than she might in the primeval days—Athenian fable.

SUGGESTS NEW PLAN FOR SCHOOL READING

"The public school is one of the most wasteful institutions in the state," says J. L. Merriam, professor of school supervision at the University of Missouri at Columbia. "To illustrate this waste, take the buying of school books. When a class of 30 runs out of reading matter the parents pay \$10 for 30 new books alive. They have bought only 12 pages of new reading material. Thus each boy has better been supplied with different books which would give the pupils 30 times the amount of reading they are now getting in a large percentage of schools."

Professor Merriam says that reading is more efficiently taught from different readers than when each pupil has read the story 2 or 3 times. There is no chance for the pupil to become interested in what another pupil is reading if the story is stale to him. Again, there is no incentive to the reader to try to read when he knows that no other pupil cares anything about his reading.

Put a new story into that pupil's hands. He is interested in it. He knows that the rest of the class is interested, too. Then he has an incentive to do good reading.

Professor Merriam recommends that teachers gather clippings and have pupils gather clippings of stories that interest them. A file of stories gathered

in this way will soon be an interesting part of a reading course.

In the University of Missouri Elementary School, which is under the direction of Prof. Merriam as a practice-school for the students in the school of education, there is a large file of clippings extending over a number of years. Now, when a class is going to study a given subject, square, for instance, the teacher can turn to the file and have perhaps 10 stories to read on this subject.

To sit in getting the teachers interested in better methods of teaching. Professor Merriam with the aid of the teachers in the university elementary school, is working on a house dealing with reading in public schools. The first is a discussion of the school curriculum with suggestions for changes, addition, or variation. The second is a series of guides for teachers in the selection of readings for the pupils.

TO GIVE UP PACIFIC
WOULD MEAN TOO MUCH

David Starr Jordan, chancellor of Leland Stanford University and one of the Peace-Anyhow Advocates, told the National Civic Federation, meeting:

"I would rather give up the Pacific than see this country go to war with Japan."

By giving up the Pacific, Doctor Jordan probably means our possessions in the Hawaiian and Philippine Islands. But these possessions are but small islands compared to what our real interests in the Pacific ocean. Involved in Uncle Sam's influence in the Pacific are the Monroe Doctrine, that costly canal, our insular holdings and the property of all our Pacific coast from Vancouver to San Diego.

Nobody wants war with Japan. But that doesn't end the argument. Nobody can guarantee that Japan will not want war with us the minute it becomes safe to put a pistol to our head and demand our Pacific commerce or our life.

The question is as to whether we can wear our fat purses and the property of all our Pacific coast from Vancouver to San Diego. Nobody wants war with Japan. But that doesn't end the argument. Nobody can guarantee that Japan will not want war with us the minute it becomes safe to put a pistol to our head and demand our Pacific commerce or our life. The question is as to whether we can wear our fat purses and the property of all our Pacific coast from Vancouver to San Diego.

CHARLES C. CAMPBELL, Administrator.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration upon the estate of James H. Gill, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, by the Probate Court of Buchanan County, Missouri, bearing date of the 5th day of December, 1914.

All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me at the same within six months from date of said letters, or they may be precluded from being paid out of such estate, and if said claimant has exhibited within one year from the date of the publication of this notice, they will be forever barred.

CHARLES C. CAMPBELL,
Administrator.

CHARLES C. CAMPBELL, Administrator.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary upon the estate of Lucie Moore, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, by the Probate Court of Buchanan County, Missouri, bearing date of the 14th day of December, 1914.

All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance within six months from date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate, and if said claimant has exhibited within one year from the date of the publication of this notice, they will be forever barred.

CHARLES C. CAMPBELL,
Administrator.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of William F. Franklin, deceased, that L. M. Fleeman, Executor of said estate, will render the Final Settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Buchanan County, State of Missouri, to be held at the court house in St. Joseph, Mo., on the second Monday of February, 1915.

MARY FOLMAN,
Administrator.

STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Burns National Bank of St. Joseph, Missouri, will be held at the office at the northwest corner of Fifth and Peoria streets, on Tuesday January 8, 1915, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. of that day for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and for the transaction of such other business as may properly be brought before it.

L. C. BURNES,
President.

STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

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G. H. UTE, President,
Secretary.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of E. W. Kuehn, deceased, Intend to make Final Settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Buchanan County, State of Missouri, to be held at the court house in St. Joseph, Mo., on the second Monday of February, 1915.

O. D. BEERY,
Executor.

STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

The regular annual stockholders meeting of the Commercial Stock Company will be held in the quarters of its Secretary at Sixth and Adams streets, on Monday January 12, 1915, at 1 p.m.

EDWARD F. WITTHEIMER, Pres.
FRED A. H. GARLICK, Secretary

NOTHING THE MATTER
WITH EITHER JOB

General Fred Ponson, while riding on the train from Emporia to Topeka, expressed his regret that he had ever left the Kansas farm. The expression, while doubtless sincere at the time, should not be taken too seriously.

He was riding thru a beautiful farm country, he was joined with months of service in a foreign land, he had an civilian clothes and was talking to civilians, he was enjoying the relaxation that comes from a change.

The expression does not prove that he's a natural born farmer, or that he is tired of being a soldier. It just proves that he is a man of human nature and likes just like the rest of us when we get a little tired of our job for a moment or two.

There is nothing the matter with the Kansas farmer, but it's a great thing to be a major-general also.



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